

State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913 PH (517) 373.2523 | FAX (517) 373.5669 www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/johnson/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, June 26, 2003

## Consumer Protection From Telemarketing Calls Has Arrived Federal "do-not-call" list opens for registration on Friday

Contact: Rebecca DeVooght

(517) 373-2523

**LANSING** — Help is on the way to prohibit unwanted and unsolicited phone calls from interrupting the time that families and residents have at home, Sen. Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak, said today. The national "do-not-call" registry opens tomorrow.

"Consumers deserve to have right to take action and stop the constant flow of unwanted phone calls into their homes," Johnson said. "The national "do-not-call" list is an important victory for consumers in Michigan and across the nation."

Consumers may link to the Federal Trade Commission's "do-not-call" registration site by visiting the Senate Republican website, located at <a href="www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/">www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/</a>, starting tomorrow morning. Registration from consumer home telephones begins on July 7. Enrollment is free.

Consumer inquiries led the Michigan Legislature to pass a bill to restrict telemarketers and create a Do- Not-Call list in 2002. Johnson added that lawmakers recognized that a single list would provide both state and federal protection, and required the adoption of a federal list when one was created.

Sen. Johnson also cautioned consumers from being the targets of any scams targeting the federal "do-not-call" registry.

"Registration for the federal "do-not-call" list is available only through the Federal Trade Commission and is free," Johnson said. "Consumers should be on the lookout for any private companies attempting to collect personal information."

For more information on how to register for the "do-not-call" list or how to avoid a "do-not-call" scam, please contact Sen. Johnson's office at (517)373-2523.